



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

UCAN NONPROFIT SPAY & NEUTER CLINIC RECEIVES \$30,000 GRANT FROM PETSMART CHARITIES® TO INCREASE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE VETERINARY CARE IN GREATER CINCINNATI

March 17, 2020 – Cincinnati, OH - One of the most common reasons pets are surrendered to local shelters is the lack of affordable pet wellness, training and education programs. Due to cost and other barriers, pets in under-resourced communities often do not have access to basic veterinary care such as spay/neuter services, vaccinations, dental care and other medical and preventative care.

With a \$30,000 grant from [PetSmart Charities](#), UCAN Nonprofit Spay & Neuter Clinic aims to support pets and pet parents in need of these services by creating and equipping a dental/diagnostics lab to enable them to offer more basic veterinary services to thousands of under-resourced pets in Greater Cincinnati.

“We are so excited to be able to expand our affordable wellness services to include preventative dental cleanings, bloodwork, and other diagnostic services so we can diagnose and treat more common conditions experienced by pets, including ear, bladder and skin infections and specific types of parasites,” said Melanie Corwin, UCAN’s Executive Director. “By adding these additional services to the spay/neuter and vaccination services we already provide, this grant will help us ensure that families in under-resourced areas of our community have access to basic veterinary care to keep their pets healthy and avoid having to surrender their beloved pets to shelters because of easily preventable or treatable medical conditions.”

“By offering full-service, affordable pet care, UCAN provides a holistic resource for the community,” said Kelly Balthazor, regional relationship manager at PetSmart Charities. “We’re proud to lend our support to this highly-collaborative effort, that continues to serve as a vital resource for the community, is a best practice and model in animal welfare, and is proof of its commitment to the pets and people of Cincinnati,” said Kelly Balthazor, regional relationship manager at PetSmart Charities. Since 1994, through its partnership with nearly 4,000 humane societies, SPCAs and pet rescues across North America, PetSmart Charities has helped more than 9 million pets to find loving homes via its in-store adoption program in over 1,650 PetSmart® stores. The leading funder of animal welfare has also donated nearly \$400 million, to positively impact communities, to connect people and pets, to help preserve families and to improve access to veterinary care through initiatives like this with UCAN.

You can find more information about the spay/neuter and basic pet care services that UCAN provides on its website, www.ucancincinnati.org or by calling 513-721-7387.

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About UCAN

The mission of UCAN, an Ohio nonprofit, 501(c)(3) charitable organization, is ending the euthanasia of cats and dogs in local shelters and keeping pets in their loving homes by providing professional and affordable spay/neuter and wellness services. Through its spay/neuter program, it has sterilized over 300,000 cats and dogs in Greater Cincinnati since opening in April 2007, preventing hundreds of thousands of unwanted puppies and kittens from being born and surrendered to local shelters. Through its expanding wellness services, it is helping to ensure that every pet has a vet and every pet owner has access to affordable, basic veterinary care for their pets. UCAN has received a Gold Star rating from Guidestar, a third-party organization that reports on the effectiveness, accountability and transparency of nonprofits, for the past 10 years in a row. For more information about UCAN and the services it offers:

Visit UCAN's website: www.ucancincinnati.org

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ucanclinic>

Follow us on Instagram: [ucanspayneuterclinic](https://www.instagram.com/ucanspayneuterclinic)

Call (513) 721-7387

Email: contactus@ucancincinnati.org

About PetSmart Charities®

[PetSmart Charities, Inc.](http://www.petSMARTcharities.org) is committed to finding lifelong, loving homes for all pets by supporting programs and thought leadership that bring people and pets together. Through its in-store adoption program in all PetSmart® stores across the U.S. and Puerto Rico, PetSmart Charities helps to find forever homes and families for nearly 600,000 shelter pets each year. PetSmart Charities also provides grant funding to nonprofits aligned with its mission. Each year, millions of generous PetSmart shoppers help pets in need by donating to PetSmart Charities using the PIN pads at checkout registers inside PetSmart stores. In turn, PetSmart Charities efficiently uses more than 90 cents of every dollar donated to fulfill its role as the leading funder of animal welfare in North America, granting nearly \$400 million since its inception in 1994. Independent from PetSmart Inc., PetSmart Charities is a 501(c)(3) organization that has received the Four-Star Rating from Charity Navigator, a third-party organization that reports on the effectiveness, accountability and transparency of nonprofits, for the past 16 years in a row – placing it among the top one percent of charities rated by this organization. To learn more visit www.petSMARTcharities.org.

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